

Application No. 09/446,521
Amendment dated November 29, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 29, 2005

Docket No.: 21581-00180-US

REMARKS

Claims 33-64 are now in the application. The allowance of claims 33-42 and 44-62 is hereby noted with appreciation. Claims 65 and 66 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 43 has been amended to recite "formula 2" in place of "formulae 2 and 3" for purposes of clarification.

Claim 63 has been amended to recite "wherein the polymer (I) is selected from the group consisting of styrenic polymers, isobutylene polymer, polyether polymers and vinyl ether polymers". Support is found in allowed claim 55.

Claim 64 has been amended to recite "producing an AB block" in place of "producing block" at line 1 to correct an inadvertent clerical error from the prior amendment. Claim 64 has also been amended to recite "said polymer (I)" in place of "said vinyl polymer (I)" in view of the recitation "an alkenyl-containing polymer (I)" in the third line for purposes of clarification and not to limit its scope. Claim 64 has also been amended to recite "wherein the polymer (I) is selected from the group consisting of styrenic polymers, isobutylene polymer, polyether polymers and vinyl ether polymers". Support is found in allowed claim 55.

The amendments to the claims do not introduce any new matter and do not raise any new issues.

The rejection of claims 65 and 66 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 65 and 66.

The rejection of claim 43 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph in the recitation "R²" as lacking antecedent basis has been overcome by deleting the reference to formula 3 therefrom since claim 41 from which claim 42 depends includes the recitation "R²" but only refers to formula 2.

Claims 63-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,696,536 to Grubbs et al. (hereinafter also referred to as "Grubbs"). Grubbs fails to anticipate claims 63 and 64. Grubbs suggests ring-opening metathesis polymerization (ROMP) (col. 7, lines 61-62) of a cyclic olefin monomer in the presence of an acyclic functionalized alkene that

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behaves as a chain transfer agent (col. 7, line 66 to col. 8, line 16) to give a telechelic polymer with end groups which function as ATRP initiators as shown in the scheme on col. 9, lines 15-16.

This telechelic polymer differs significantly from the claimed polymer (I), i.e. styrenic polymers, isobutylene polymer, polyether polymers and vinyl ether polymers.

Accordingly, amended claims 63 and 64 are not anticipated by Grubbs.

It is also requested that the Examiner acknowledge the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 and receipt of priority documents.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21581-00180-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: November 29, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By

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